



Commemoration Statement

The 10th Anniversary of ASEAN Climate Resilient Network (ASEAN-CRN)

23 January 2025, Chiang Mai, Thailand

1. We, the ASEAN Climate Resilient Network (ASEAN-CRN) focal points, representatives from development partners, and climate change stakeholders, attending the 10th Anniversary of ASEAN-CRN Event which was held under Thailand's Chairmanship, co-organized by the Mekong Institute (MI) in its capacity as the Interim Secretariat and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), in partnership with the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, Winrock International, the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI), and the US Agency for International Development (USAID) from 22-23 January 2025 in Chiang Mai, Thailand,
2. Recognized the intensifying impacts from climate change in the agriculture sector that pose growing concerns for the sector's sustainable development and its contribution to food security and farmers' livelihoods across ASEAN including extreme weather events, rising temperatures and heat stress, sea-level rise and salinity intrusion, water scarcity and erratic rainfall, emerging pests and diseases, land degradation and soil erosion, and threats to food and nutrition security and livelihoods,
3. Emphasized the severe impacts from burning in agricultural areas which is a contributing factor to climate change and negatively affects public health, environment, and biodiversity across the regions,
4. Highlighted the critical need for sustained collaborative efforts, enhanced policy coordination among ASEAN Member States, institutional strengthening, improved access to finance, and accelerated adoption of digital innovations, to realize resilient, biodiverse and pollution-free agrifood systems that provide healthy and nutritious food for all by 2045 in ASEAN,
5. Acknowledged the Statement of the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF) to address Crop Burning in the ASEAN Region and adopted the ASEAN Guidelines on the Reduction of Crop Burning at the 46th AMAF Meeting in October 2024, which is the ASEAN Member States' response to the instructions from the 45th ASEAN Ministers of Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF) Meeting in October 2023. This has been a collaborative effort, drawing upon the expertise and dedication of numerous individuals and organizations from the ASEAN Member States, as well as regional development partners from the private and public sectors to support the implementation of the ASEAN Strategy on Carbon Neutrality, the ASEAN Peatland Management Strategy 2023-2030, ASEAN Guidelines on Peatland Fire Management, and the Second Roadmap for ASEAN Cooperation on Transboundary Haze Pollution Control with Means of Implementation,
6. Acknowledged the importance of ASEAN-CRN, formally established in 2014, as a vital regional platform to address climate change challenges in agriculture, enabling Member States to share technical expertise, best practices, and evidence-based climate adaptation strategies by supporting the development and implementation of national adaptation plans (NAPs) in the Food, Agriculture, and Forestry (FAF) sectors, facilitating multi-stakeholder dialogues and partnerships to mainstream climate resilience across ASEAN, delivering comprehensive capacity-building initiatives for policymakers, farmers, and private sector actors, and facilitating access to global climate funds for adaptation projects in member states,
7. Further noted that ASEAN-CRN will be instrumental in integrating resilience into the upcoming ASEAN Vision on Food, Agriculture, and Forestry (FAF) Towards 2045 and Sectoral Plan 2026-2030, developing policy frameworks that address climate risks while promoting sustainability, inclusivity, and innovation since climate resilience has become fundamental to ASEAN's FAF

policies, ensuring sustainable development and food security in the face of increasing climate challenges,

8. As we commemorate ASEAN-CRN's 10th anniversary, we reflect with pride on a decade of impactful initiatives, regional collaboration, and unwavering dedication to enhancing climate resilience in ASEAN's FAF, and,
9. Collectively committed to the following actions to realize the vision of a resilient, biodiverse, productive, and inclusive agrifood system that provides healthy and nutritious food for all in ASEAN by 2045:
 - a. Encourage the adoption of sustainable agricultural practices that reduce the impacts of climate change and crop burning, offering a clear path forward for achieving a carbon-neutral future. Successful examples such as the "3R approach: Re-Habit, Replace with High-Value Crops, Replace with Alternate Crops," and the "ING Model for Low-Carbon Agriculture: I for Increase Productivity, N for New Technology, and G for Green Management" can be scaled across ASEAN countries.
 - b. Promote the establishment of clear policy frameworks that incentivize sustainable practices and discourage crop burning, empowering farmers with necessary skills and knowledge to implement alternatives, developing cost-effective technologies for land preparation and crop residue management, and driving opportunities for products and services derived from sustainable residue management.
 - c. Strengthen efforts to implement national policies and initiatives as foundations for regional cooperation and scaling up impacts.
 - d. Encourage future regional cooperation, including: - Advancing climate-smart agriculture (CSA) technologies and practices. - Expanding capacity-building initiatives to empower stakeholders at all levels. - Facilitating greater access to climate finance. - Supporting the development of ASEAN policy guidelines. - Strengthening networking, partnership building, and regional coordination for implementing ASEAN's FAF climate action targets.
 - e. Strengthen ASEAN-CRN through enhanced technical activities and a reinforced Secretariat by establishing a permanent Secretariat to serve as a hub for knowledge, coordination, and support for member states.
 - f. Seek further support through technical expertise, financial resources, and strategic guidance from development partners.

As we mark this significant milestone, ASEAN-CRN and its partners reaffirm their dedication through tangible actions by challenging the no-burn perspective among ASEAN Member States to address climate change, particularly by refraining from purchasing products produced through burning processes. These efforts will be elaborated upon during the upcoming 10th Annual ASEAN-CRN Meeting. The outcomes of this meeting will pave the way for discussions at the 19th ASEAN Technical Working Group on Agricultural Research and Development (ATWGARD) Meeting, held back-to-back with the ASEAN-CRN Meeting, scheduled for the second quarter of 2025 in Thailand. These contributions will subsequently feed into the high-level discussions at the forthcoming meeting of SOM-AMAF and the 47th AMAF Meeting, which will take place in the Philippines in 2025.